

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/784,627	BENARD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nitin Patel	2673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-14,19-21,23 Now renumbered 1,2-16 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|--|

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1, 4-14, 19-21,23 are allowed. Claims 2-3, 15-18,22 have been cancelled.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a touch screen system having a substrate that has a surface; a plurality of acoustic wave transducers located near a perimeter of the substrate surface having at least a first acoustic wave transducer that transmits a first acoustic wave across the substrate surface and at least second and third acoustic wave transducers that receive acoustic waves and a control component that determines a location of a perturbation based at least in part on time delays between transmission of the first acoustic wave from the first transducer and receipt of a second acoustic wave at each of the second and third transducers, the second acoustic wave is one of reflected and scattered from a location of a perturbation on the substrate surface as claimed in claim 1.

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for determining a location of a perturbation on a substrate surface having the step of transmitting an acoustic wave across a substrate surface from one or more transducers coupled to a perimeter of the substrate surface; detecting the transmitted acoustic wave at two or more points near the perimeter of the substrate surface; converting the detected acoustic waves into electrical signals; analyzing the electrical signals to determine time delays between transmission of the acoustic wave and receipt of the transmitted acoustic wave at each receiving transducer; determining a location of perturbation of the substrate surface based at least in part on the time delays as claimed in claim 12.

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a system for determining a perturbation location on a substrate surface having means for converting an electrical signal into a mechanical signal that stresses the substrate surface; means for transmitting the mechanical signal as an acoustic wave across a substrate surface from at least one acoustic wave transducer that is coupled to the substrate surface; means for receiving the transmitted acoustic wave at two or more points near the perimeter of the substrate surface and means for determining a location of perturbation of the substrate surface based at least in part on time delays between transmission and receipt of the acoustic wave as claimed in claim 20.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nitin Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-7677. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin H. Shalwala can be reached on 571-272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NP

February 15, 2006



VIJAY SHANKAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER